

**Organizational Charter
Interagency Task Force
(Levee and Associated Restoration Projects)**

1. Authority: This Charter; under the authority of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)/Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) memorandum dated February 18, 1997, Subject: Floodplain Management and Procedures for Evaluation and Review of Levee and Associated Restoration Projects, is hereby established.
2. Purpose: The purpose of the Charter is to establish an Interagency Task Force (ITF) and process to assist in the rapid and effective recovery of the damaged California flood control system before the next flood season. The recovery effort will minimize risk to life and property, while ensuring a cost-effective approach to flood damage mitigation and floodplain management, and the protection of important environmental and natural resource values.
3. Goals: To achieve its purpose the ITF will:
 - a. Ensure that consideration is given to all agency authorities and programs, alternatives for vulnerability reduction, including permanent evacuation of floodprone areas, flood warning, creation of additional natural and artificial storage, adequately sized and maintained levees, and environmental restoration and ecosystem management alternatives when there are willing sellers of the lands required for such alternatives;
 - b. Complete its work in a timely manner to assure that non-structural components are considered and implemented, if time warrants, before the start of the next flood season; and
 - c. Not deny any party access to existing programs for levee repair and associated restoration, that is in accord with sound financial and environmental practices, nor create unnecessary or avoidable delays.
4. Applicability: This Charter is applicable to those Federal agencies identified as members and will serve as the authority for the ITF to meet and act on matters assigned to it.
5. Period: The requirement for the continuation of this ITF is indefinite and will depend on the continued need to examine and evaluate non-structural alternatives for repair and restoration of flood damaged levees and associated systems. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as the lead agency, will make this determination in coordination with ITF members.
6. References:
 - a. OMB/CEQ Memorandum, February 18, 1997, Subject: Floodplain Management and Procedures for Evaluation and Review of Levee and Associated Restoration Projects.
 - b. Executive Order 11988, May 24, 1977.
7. Direction and Control: The ITF works under the leadership of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Pacific Division.

8. Membership:

- a. *The ITF will include senior member representatives from each involved Federal agency. The ITF should include the participation of appropriate State and local agencies.*
- b. *The Deputy Commander, South Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will chair the ITF. Other Federal member representatives include: Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Geological Survey), Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Agriculture (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Department of Commerce (National Marine Fisheries Service and the Economic Development Administration), Department of Housing and Urban Development, Department of Transportation and the Small Business Administration.*
- c. *Representatives from Native American Tribes, as appropriate to location of proposed projects.*
- d. *State member representatives for California will include the California Resource Agency, Department of Water Resources and other agencies as appropriate. Representatives from Nevada and Oregon will participate when required to address those cases where rivers cross state boundaries.*
- e. *CALFED Bay-Delta program representative.*

9. Funding: *Federal agencies will fund participation for their representatives. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will fund space requirements, communications, and automation needs. This funding will continue until the closure of the Disaster Field Office(DFO) for FEMA-1155-DR-CA. The present applicable Mission Assignment provides for office support and administrative expenses of the ITF.*

10. Administration:

- a. *Chair or ITF Staff Chief is responsible for announcing meetings and ensuring preparation of a summary of each meeting.*
- b. *Administrative support is in accordance with paragraph 9. Should the DFO close prior to completion of activities under the ITF, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will assume responsibility.*
- c. *The ITF will meet as requested by the Chair or ITF Staff Chief to review proposals for repair and restoration of flood damaged levees and associated systems for a decision on applicability of non-structural alternatives. Periodic meetings to discuss procedural activities and/or processes will convene as necessary. The ITF will use electronic reporting and commenting in order to expedite its work when practicable.*
- d. *The Chair will conduct each meeting in a manner to promote all member representatives to comment freely. These meetings will facilitate a timely transfer of recommendations to the agency responsible for the final repair.*

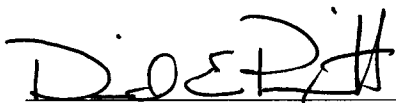
- e. *The ITF staff will provide CALFED a copy of all final reports for review and comment in order to appropriately address activities being conducted by CALFED. The CALFED representative to the ITF will ensure that the CALFED Management Team is fully informed of the ITF progress. This will provide an avenue to coordinate any overlap in geographic scope and focus of environmental restoration and ecosystem management.*

11. Procedures:

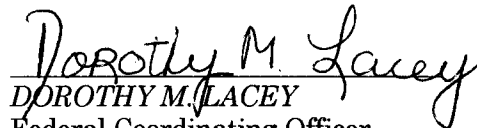
- a. *During the development of a final report by the lead agency (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for PL 84-99 projects or the Natural Resources Conservation Service for projects under NRCS authority), all member agencies are able to participate in developing the details of a non-structural alternative (NSA) relative to the lead agency's proposal, but on a fast track. The lead agency will facilitate the potential identification of NSAs with participating agencies. Project Information Reports (PIR) are the final reports prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Final reports prepared by the NRCS are reflective of a summary of the NRCS damage survey report. These generally consist of a one page summary with accompanied maps.*
- b. *For field investigations (assessments) or other relevant reports received by the ITF staff; the information will be furnished to the participating ITF members as soon as possible. This information will serve as an "early warning system" of potential projects that require final reports. It will be the ITF member agency's responsibility to contact and coordinate with the appropriate lead Federal agency that has primary responsibility for a project prior to that agency preparing a final report. When the ITF member receives an initial field investigation the ITF member should immediately contact the lead Federal agency.*
- c. *Upon receipt of a final report by the ITF staff, a copy is provided to each ITF representative. Each ITF representative is to evaluate the final report with consideration to applicable State and Federal laws and regulations and recommendations on NSAs. The enclosed flow diagram depicts the process followed by the ITF.*
- d. *Copies of the reports received by the ITF staff from the responsible lead Federal agency are furnished to the ITF members as soon as possible. Within 24-48 hours of receipt of a report each agency will provide comments to the ITF on the NSA checklist provided with the report. The intent of this process is to ensure that a NSA has been appropriately considered in the early phases. If a NSA is not available then the responsible lead Federal agency can proceed accordingly within the agency's authority for repair. If a NSA not previously identified in preparation of the final report is proposed by an ITF agency then the NSA proposal will be formally considered by the ITF. The ITF will convene a meeting with the responsible agency presenting its NSA concept instead of a structural repair. The Chair will collect the comments and the ITF will concur on a recommendation regarding the report. The ITF Chair will provide the written recommendations to the decision maker of the responsible agency for implementing the NSA. The ITF NSA checklist serves as a final check on the NSA process.*

- e. *The ITF staff will provide GIS maps through the FEMA GIS unit within the DFO structure. The availability of the maps will be dependent upon the operational capabilities and priorities of the DFO.*
- f. *Levee repairs conducted under the USACE Phase III effort will not preclude the consideration or affect the practicability of non-structural alternatives under the Phase IV long-term recovery phase.*
- g. *Monthly reports will be prepared by the ITF staff on the status of levee repair and associated restoration projects. Each member agency shall receive the ITF monthly report for its use and may include it in any agency reports. The monthly reports furnished OMB will include, but not be limited to information on applications received, comments received, actions taken, and dollars spent.*

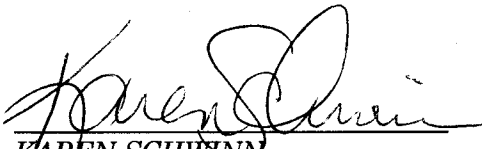
12. *This Charter is adopted by the undersigned as written by the following active participants:*



COLONEL DAVID E. PEIXOTTO
Deputy Division Commander
South Pacific Division,
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



DOROTHY M. LACEY
Federal Coordinating Officer
DFO, Rancho Cordova, California
Federal Emergency Management Agency



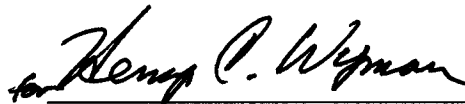
KAREN SCHWINN
Associate Director, Water Division
Region IX
Environmental Protection Agency



ROGER PATTERSON
Regional Director
Mid-Pacific Regional Office
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Department of Interior

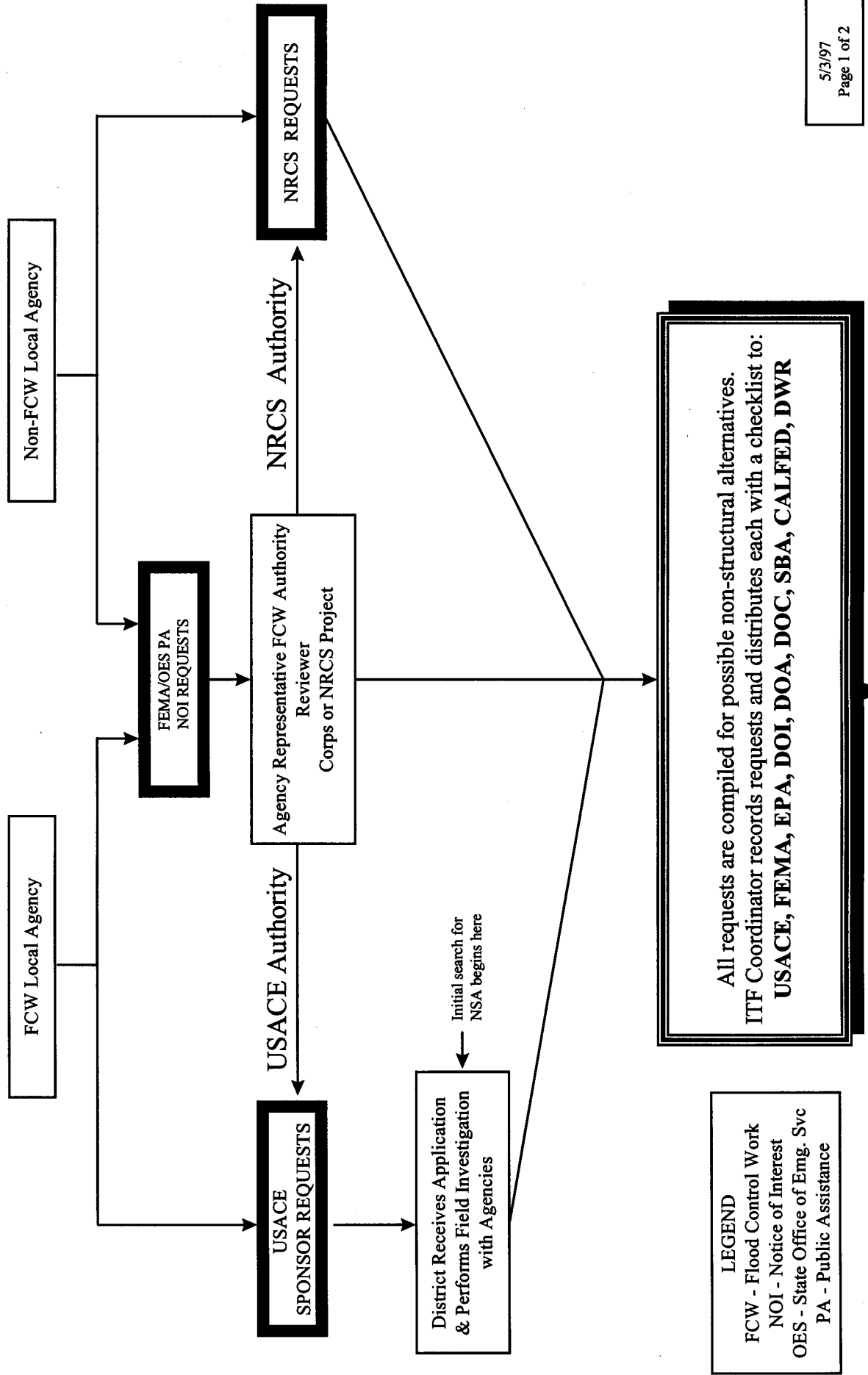


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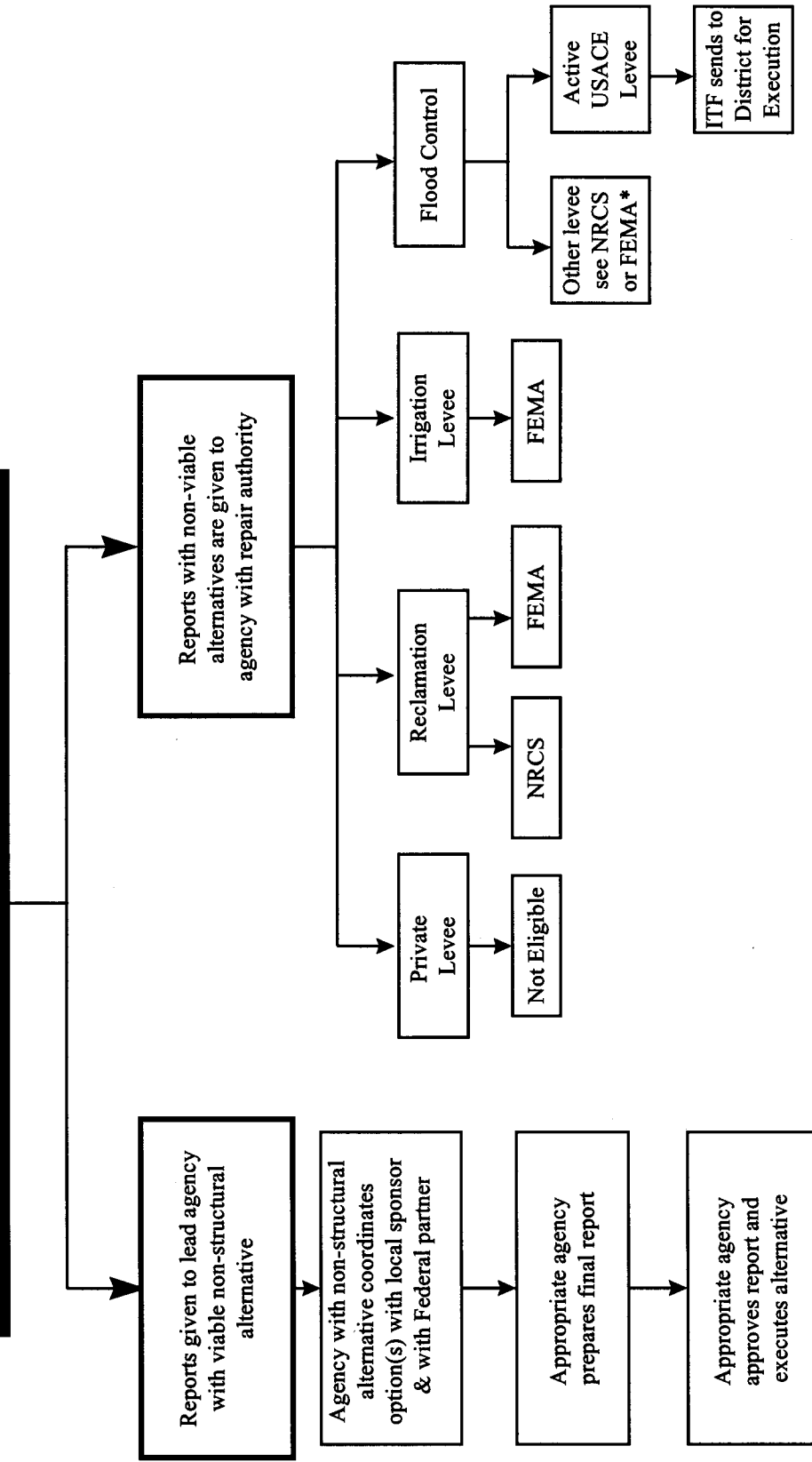


HERSHEL R. READ
State Conservationist, California
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

ITF NON-STRUCTURAL REVIEW PROCESS



**DFO ITF DISCUSSES POTENTIAL
NON-STRUCTURAL ALTERNATIVE(S)
AND DESIGNATES LEAD AGENCY**



* Applicants receiving emergency repair reimbursement from FEMA must join the Corps levee rehab program or meet eligibility requirements for the NRCS/EWP program.